

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replacement paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 1 and ending at page 27, line 6:

Although the present invention has been described with reference to preferred embodiments, workers skilled in the art will recognize that changes may be made in form and detail without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The examples specifically set forth herein are just for illustrative purposes only. The supervisory overlayer can detect other failures or conditions and provide a controlled response such as shutting down the process device and/or sending an alarm signal. By using the present invention, standard components used in process devices can be monitored such that the process device meets safety standards, such as those required in certain certification procedures, which the individual components and process device could not otherwise achieve. In general, the supervisory overlayer includes some type of device interface which couples to the process device and provides an output related to operation of a component or components of the device. Some type of component monitor monitors operation of the component based upon the output from the device interface. A safety failure of the component is identified by the component monitor and a safety response module provides a desired safety response in accordance with the safety failure. The supervisory overlayer, device interface, component monitor and safety response module can be implemented in software and/or hardware. The supervisory overlay can monitor a plurality of process device including devices which are distributed across a control system. The supervisory overlayer can be implemented in a device which is completely powered with power from a two wire process control loop, or can receive power from another source. The present invention can be used in conjunction with techniques set forth in U.S. Application No. 10/733,558, filed December 11, 2003 and entitled PROCESS DEVICE WITH LOOP OVERRIDE.

